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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO					
10/634,895	08/06/2003	Philippe Despres	241161US0DIV	7352					
22850 7	7590 02/21/2006		EXAM	INER					
•	•	ID, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.	CHEN, STACY BROWN						
1940 DUKE S' ALEXANDRI	TREET A, VA 22314		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER					
<del>20                           </del>			1648	-					

DATE MAILED: 02/21/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

		Application No.	Applicant(s)	
		10/634,895	DESPRES ET AL.	
	Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit	
		Stacy B. Chen	1648	
Period fo	The MAILING DATE of this communication app or Reply	ears on the cover she	eet with the correspondence address -	•
WHIC - Exter after - If NO - Failu Any r	ORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY CHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DANSIONS of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. It period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period were to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing and patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	ATE OF THIS COMM 36(a). In no event, however, to vill apply and will expire SIX (6) cause the application to become	IUNICATION.  nay a reply be timely filed  S) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communications ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).	
Status				
1)⊠	Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 De	ecember 2005.		
2a) <u></u> □	This action is <b>FINAL</b> . 2b)⊠ This	action is non-final.		
3)	Since this application is in condition for allowar	ice except for formal	matters, prosecution as to the merits	; is
	closed in accordance with the practice under E	x parte Quayle, 1935	5 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.	
Dispositi	on of Claims			
4)🖂	Claim(s) 3-7,10-14,17-23 and 25-65 is/are pen-	ding in the applicatio	n.	
	4a) Of the above claim(s) <u>3-7,10-14,17-23,25-4</u>	<i>1,44-49 and 51-65</i> is	/are withdrawn from consideration.	
5)	Claim(s) is/are allowed.		•	
6)⊠	Claim(s) 42,43 and 50 is/are rejected.			
•	Claim(s) is/are objected to.			
8)	Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or	election requiremer	t.	
Applicati	on Papers			
9)🖾	The specification is objected to by the Examine	r.		
10)🛛	The drawing(s) filed on <u>06 August 2003</u> is/are:	a)⊠ accepted or b)	objected to by the Examiner.	
	Applicant may not request that any objection to the			
	Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correcti			
11)	The oath or declaration is objected to by the Ex	aminer. Note the atta	ached Office Action or form PTO-152	•
Priority u	ınder 35 U.S.C. § 119			
•	Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign All b) Some * c) None of:  1. Certified copies of the priority documents  2. Certified copies of the priority documents  3. Copies of the certified copies of the prior	s have been received s have been received	I. I in Application No	
* S	application from the International Bureau See the attached detailed Office action for a list			
Attachmen	t(s)			
2) Notice	e of References Cited (PTO-892) e of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) nation Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) r No(s)/Mail Date 8/6/03.	Pape 5) Notice	view Summary (PTO-413) or No(s)/Mail Date ce of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) or: Sequence Alignment.	

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#### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Applicant's election with traverse of Group VI, claims 42, 43 and 50, is acknowledged. Applicant argues that searching all of the claims of the invention would not be burdensome. In response to this argument, the restriction requirement establishes the distinctness of the inventions and the reasons why a search would be burdensome. Applicant has not specifically addressed any of the particular reasons set forth in the restriction requirement. Applicant also states that if the product claims are allowable, methods relating to the allowable product may be rejoined. In response, the Office recognizes Applicant's right to rejoinder should the elected product claims be found allowable, and if the appropriate method claims relating to such an allowable product are amended during prosecution to correspond with the allowable product. Therefore, the restriction is deemed proper and made FINAL.

Claims 3-7, 10-14, 17-23 and 25-65 are pending. Claims 3-7, 10-14, 17-23, 25-41, 44-49 and 51-65 are withdrawn from consideration being drawn to non-elected subject matter. Claims 42, 43 and 50 are under examination.

### Specification

2. The first line of the first page of the specification should be updated to reflect the current status of parent application, USSN 09/881,710, now US Patent 6,673,895.

#### Claim Objections

3. Claim 50 is objected to for improper grammar in the phrase, "a physiological acceptable carrier", which should be, "a physiologically acceptable carrier". Correction is required.

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# Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 42, 43 and 50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 42 recites, "An isolated polypeptide of the sequence in SEQ ID NO: 3". The scope of the claim and its dependent claims 43 and 50, is not clear because the claim language could read on fragments of SEQ ID NO: 3. If Applicant intends to claim the full-length sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3, then the following language is suggested for clarity: "An isolated polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO: 3". Without further explanation in the specification, the claim language fails to convey the metes and bounds of the invention.

Claims 43 and 50 recite the limitation "the peptide of Claim 42". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in claim 42, which refers only to a polypeptide, not a peptide. Correction is required.

5. Claim 42 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Claim 42 is drawn to an isolated polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO: 3, wherein said peptide

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(polypeptide) induces apoptosis in a cell. The claim encompasses a large genus of cells that are susceptible to apoptosis.

To provide adequate written description and evidence of possession of a claimed genus, the specification must provide sufficient distinguishing identifying characteristics of the genus. The factors to be considered include disclosure of complete or partial structure, physical and/or chemical properties, functional characteristics, structure/function correlation, methods of making the claimed product, or any combination thereof. In this case, the only information provided about the cell is that it is susceptible to apoptosis. However, there is no explanation of how the claimed polypeptide induces apoptosis in the cell, so there is inadequate structure/function correlation. While Applicant has suggested that cancer cells may be a potential target, there are many types of cancer cells. Without further disclosure, Applicant has failed to adequately demonstrate possession of the large genus of cells that are susceptible to apoptosis when somehow contacted with SEQ ID NO: 3. Accordingly, in the absence of sufficient recitation of distinguishing identifying characteristics, the specification does not provide adequate written description of the claimed genus. It is suggested that the intended function (or inherent function) recited in claim 43 be removed to overcome this rejection.

### Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

<sup>(</sup>b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

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Claims 42 and 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bhamarapravati *et al.* (WO 96/40933, "Bhamarapravati"). The claims are drawn to an isolated polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO: 3. A reasonable interpretation of the claim language suggests that fragments of SEQ ID NO: 3 are also an embodiment of the invention (see 112, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph rejection above). The polypeptide is capable of inducing apoptosis in a cell.

Bhamarapravati teaches the use of infectious Dengue 2 virus PDK-53 as a quadravalent vaccine. Particularly, a deduced amino acid fragment of Bhamarapravati's SEQ ID NO: 2 (amino acids 211-240) shares 100% sequence identity to Applicant's SEQ ID NO: 3 (see attached Sequence Alignment). While the sequence of Bhamarapravati is larger than Applicant's (3,391 amino acids compared to 30 amino acids), the open claim language reasonably encompasses polypeptides of greater length. Since the structure of Bhamarapravati's polypeptide meets the limitations of the instant claims as written, any inherent functions of the claimed polypeptide are expected to be present in Bhamarapravati's polypeptide. Therefore, claims 42 and 43 are anticipated by the prior art.

# Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
  - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 42, 43 and 50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bhamarapravati et al. (WO 96/40933, "Bhamarapravati"). The claims are drawn to an isolated

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polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO: 3. A reasonable interpretation of the claim language suggests that fragments of SEQ ID NO: 3 are also an embodiment of the invention (see 112, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph rejection above). The polypeptide is capable of inducing apoptosis in a cell. Also claimed is a composition comprising SEQ ID NO: 3, or sequence within SEQ ID NO: 3, along with a physiologically acceptable carrier.

Bhamarapravati teaches the use of infectious Dengue 2 virus PDK-53 as a quadravalent vaccine. Particularly, a deduced amino acid fragment of Bhamarapravati's SEQ ID NO: 2 (amino acids 211-240) shares 100% sequence identity to Applicant's SEQ ID NO: 3 (see attached Sequence Alignment). While the sequence of Bhamarapravati is larger than Applicant's (3,391 amino acids compared to 30 amino acids), the open claim language reasonably encompasses polypeptides of greater length. Since the structure of Bhamarapravati's polypeptide meets the limitations of the instant claims as written, any inherent functions of the claimed polypeptide are expected to be present in Bhamarapravati's polypeptide.

While Bhamarapravati suggests the use of the claimed polypeptide in a vaccine, no specific mention of a physiologically acceptable carrier is made. However, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to use a physiologically acceptable carrier along with the administration of Bhamarapravati's composition. One would have had a reasonable expectation of success that a physiologically acceptable carrier would have worked with Bhamarapravati's composition because the polynucleotide and encoded polypeptide must be administered in some sort of vehicle, even water. Therefore, the invention would have been prima facie obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made.

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This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

# Conclusion

#### 8. No claim is allowed.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stacy B. Chen whose telephone number is 571-272-0896. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:00-4:30). If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James C. Housel can be reached on 571-272-0902. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Stacy B. Chen

February 16, 2006

-Sequence alignment

# GenCore version 5.1.6 (c) 1993 - 2006 Compugen Ltd Copyright

model 38 using protein search, OM protein

2006, 18:32:23 4 January Run on:

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The invention relates to pro-apoptotic fragments of the Dengue virus (DEN) pRM and E glycoproteins, methods for screening molecules capable of inducing apoptosis in a cell. The

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ALIGNMENTS

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2 X	Claim 42; Fig 11; 45pp; English.
ပ္ပ	nvention relates to pro-apoptotic fragments of the Dengue
ပ္ပ	M and E glycoproteins, methods for screening molecules of
ပ္ပ	inducing apoptosis and methods of inducing apoptosis in a cell. The

protein product

Plasmid pCB9D2-IJ-4-3

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Novel isolated nucleic acid useful/as vaccine for preventing flaviviruinfection, comprises transcriptional unit encoding signal sequence of flavivirus and immunogenic flavivirus antigen of a second flavivirus.
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prM-E; DEN-2.

The invention relates to a novel nucleic acid comprising a transcriptional unit encoding a signal sequence of a structural protein of a first flavivirus and an immunogenic flavivirus antigen of a second flavivirus, where the transcriptional unit directs the synthesis of the antigen. The polynucleotide of the invention has virucide activity, and acts as a vaccine. A composition of the invention is useful for immunising a subject against infection by a flavivirus. The polynucleotide is useful as a vaccine for preventing flavivirus infection. The sequence represents plasmid pCB9D2-IJ-4-3, which contains dengué-2 virus (DEN-2) prM, M and E, and Japanese encephalitis virus E Novel isolated nucleic acid useful as vaccine for preventing flavivirus infection, comprises transcriptional unit encoding signal sequence of or flavivirus and immunogenic flavivirus antigen of a second flavivirus. Dengue 2 virus; polyprotein; capsid; pfM; M; E; NS1; NS2A; NS2B; NS3; NS4A; NS4B; NS5; PDK-53; quadravalent vaccine; immunity; serotype; chimeric DEN-2/1 virus; chimeric DEN-2/3 virus; chimeric DEN-2/4 virus dengue fever; fatal dengue haemorrhagi¢ fever; dengue shock syndrome; Gaps virus; DEN-; virucide; vaccine; dengue-2 virus; DE Length 685; strain 16681, PDK-53 Indels Score 172; DB 6; Pred. No: 2.7e-16; Mismatches 0; 150 flavivirus antigen; encephalitis virus; 30 Example 20; Page 162-164; 174pp; English PHVGMGLETRTETWMSSEGAWKHVQRIETW PHVGMGLETRIETWMSSEGAWKHVQRIETW SERVECES attenuated DEN-2 virus, Location/Qualifiers 2. .114 Dengue virus type 2 (strain 16681) standard; protein; 3391 ő (USSH ) US DEPT HEALTH & HUMAN 2002WO-US010764. 100.0%; 2001US-00826115. (first entry) Conservative Flavivirus; immunogenic pCB9D2-IJ-4-3; Japanese (revised) WPI; 2003-058572/05 N-PSDB; ABV77548. Similarity Séquence 685 AA; of WO200281754-A1. Unidentified Synthetic. 04-APR-2002; 04-APR-2001; Polyprotein 27-AUG-2003 12-SEP-1997 17-0CT-2002 30; Query Match Best Local S Matches 30 121 #AW06591 profeins Key Protein Chang AAW0659 g

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                                                                                            "N-linked
                                                                                                                            'note= "N-linked
                                                                                                                                                      1346. .1475
/label= Nr.
                                                                                                                                                                                                           NS4A
                                                                                                                                                                                                                 243. .2491
label= NS4B
      115. .205 /
| label = prM
                                                                                                                                                                                    1476. .2093
/label= NS3
2094. .2242
/label= NS4A
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 2492. .3391
/label= NS5
                                                                                                              /label= NS1
                                                                                                     .1127
                                                     281. .775
/label= E
                                       280
                                              label= M
 /label=
                                 note=
                                                                                              note=
                                                                                                                                                                                                    2094.
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  3038
                                                                                                      76
                                                                                                                     905
                                                                                                                                     982
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  Misc-difference
                       Modified-site
                                                                    Modified-site
                                                                                                                     Modified-site
                                                                                                                                    Modified-site
                                                                                     Modified-site
                                                      Protein
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NAC"

NAC"

NAT"

NAC"

NAT"

WO9640933-A1

'note= "Encoded by KKA"

19-DEC-1996

96WO-US009209. 06-JUN-1996;

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95US-00483292. 07-JUN-1995; (USSH ) US DEPT HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES (UYMA-) UNIV MAHIDOL AT SALAYA

SB; Halstead Gubler DJ, Chang J, Butrapet S, Bhamarapravati N, B Kinney R, Trent DW;

WPI; 1997-052330/05. N-PSDB; AAT49304.

16681 on. PDK-53, a clone of infectious attenuated Dengue 2 virus strain 1 also chimeric DEN-2/1, DEN-2/3 and DEN-1/4 viruses, used as a quadravalent vaccine for protecting against Dengue virus infecti

261pp; English. Claim 27; Page 122-136;

3, may be immunity 2/4 virus. The new quadravalent vaccines are used to protect against infection by all four serotypes of dengue virus, DEN-1, DEN-2, DEN-3 and DEN-4, which can lead to dengue fever or fatal dengue haemorrhagic fever/dengue shock syndrome (DHF/DSS). Host cells are used to produce the recombinant protein products of the DNA constructs which are used in the vaccines. (Updated on 27-AUG-2003 to correct OS field.) virus N This sequence represents the polyprotein from attenuated Dengue strain 16681. The attenuated virus is designated PDK-53. The polprotein comprises the capsid, prM, M, E, NS1, NS2A, NS2B, NS3, N and NS5 proteins. A clone of this wildtype viral sequence, PDK-5 used in the production of a quadravalent vaccine which provides against all four serotypes of dengue virus. The vaccine also com chimeric DEN-2/1 virus, a chimeric DEN-2/3 virus, and/or a chime

Sequence 3391 AA;

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ö
                                                                                                                                                                                                                     cine; immunity; serotype;
virus; chimeric DEN-2/4 virus;
ever; dengue shock syndrome.
                      Gaps
                       ö
  ,3391;
                      Indelg
 Length
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           site"
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     glycøsylation site"
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      site"
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 DB 2
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    glycosylation
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                              vaccine;
                                                               240
                                           30
                    Mismatches
                                                                                                                                                                                                                  prM;
Score 172;
Pred. No. 1
                                                                                                                                                                                                                 Dengue 2 virus; polyprotein; capsid; prM; NS4A; NS4B; NS5; PDK-53; quadravalent vacchimeric DEN-2/1 virus; chimeric DEN-2/3 dengue fever; fatal dengue haemorrhagic f DHF; DSS.
                                                                                                                                                                                              strain 16681
                                                        PHVGMGLETRTETWMSSEGAWKHVQRIETW
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          (USSH ) US DEPT HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            Capsid_protein
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       Location/Qualifiers
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                ζq
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  2 (strain 16681)
                                                                                                                  AAW06590 standard; protein; 3391
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/label= NS2B
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|abel= NS4B
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/label= prM
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/2242
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                                                                                                                                                                                             Polyprotein of DEN-2 virus,
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           "N-1
                                                                                                                                                              (revised)
(first entry)
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/label= Ne
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      281. .775
/label= E
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                280
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           Similarity 100
30, Conservative
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           label=
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  Dengue virus type
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11-SBP-1997
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Query Match
Best Local S
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                     Matches
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